

R.O.C.No.38835/2022/D4



CIRCULAR

It is brought to the notice of the Registry that representations are being received from Advocates' Associations from time to time, seeking permission to open the Portraits of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar and Senior Advocates of the Advocates'/Bar Associations concerned.

The very same issue has been considered by the Madras High Court on various occasions in the meetings of the Hon'ble Full Court held on 22.10.2008, 11.03.2010, 20.04.2011, 27.04.2013, 08.12.2013, 07.12.2019, and recently on 11.04.2023. The gist of the resolutions of the Hon'ble Full Court are as follows:

- i) On 22.10.2008, the Hon'ble Full Court rejected the request of the Tamil Nadu Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Advocates Association for fixing portraits of National Leaders in all the Court Halls in Tamil Nadu.
- ii) In the meeting held on 11.03.2010, while observing that there have been incidents in which damage has been caused to the statues of the National Leaders leading to friction as well as law and order situations in different places, and that, there have been demands to erect the statues of different political leaders at different centres, including the Court campuses, the Hon'ble Full Court resolved that hereafter there shall be no more erection of any statue in any of the Court campuses, whether at Chennai or Madurai Bench, District Courts or Taluk Courts or any other Court premises, subordinate to the High Court.



- iii) On 20.04.2011, the Hon'ble Full Court, following the earlier resolutions, unanimously resolved that henceforth no statue would be permitted to be installed in any Court premises in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- iv) On 27.04.2013, reiterating the resolution dated 22.10.2008 (supra), the Hon'ble Full Court directed the Principal District Judge, Kancheepuram to persuade the Alandur Court Lawyers' Association to remove the portrait of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar from the entrance hall of the newly constructed Combined Court Buildings at Alandur, and rejected the request of the Cuddalore Bar to display the portrait of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar in the newly constituted Special Courts.
- v) In the meeting held on 08.12.2013, all the earlier resolutions in the matter of installation of portraits or statues of any kind inside any Court premises within the State of Tamil Nadu, were reiterated.
- vi) On 07.12.2019, the Hon'ble Full Court resolved to decline the request with regard to display of certain portraits in the Courts.
- vii) Very recently on 11.04.2023, the Hon'ble Full Court considered a similar request, and reiterating all the earlier resolutions (supra), unanimously resolved that except the statues and portraits of Mahatma Gandhiji and Saint Thiruvalluvar, no other portraits and pictures shall be displayed anywhere inside the Court premises.

In view of the above resolutions of the Hon'ble Full Court of the Madras High Court on various occasions, all the Principal District Judges/District Judges/Principal Judge/District Judge-cum-Chief Judicial Magistrates of the District concerned are hereby instructed to strictly adhere

to the above resolutions of the Hon'ble Full Court of the Madras High Court  
If any deviation is found, the Principal District Judges/District  
Judges/Principal Judge/District Judge-cum-Chief Judicial Magistrate of the  
District concerned and the Chief Judge of Puducherry are directed to take  
action by giving suitable complaint to the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and  
Puducherry.

The above instructions shall be strictly followed by all concerned.

The receipt of this Circular is required to be acknowledged  
immediately.

HIGH COURT, MADRAS  
DATED : 07 -07-2023

  
REGISTRAR GENERAL (i/c)



To

1. All the Principal District Judges/District Judges/Principal Judges/  
District Judge-cum-Chief Judicial Magistrates of the District concerned.
2. The Chief Judge, Puducherry.